



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: NIXON ET AL..

Serial No.: 09/510,053

Filed: FEBRUARY 22, 2000

Title: INTEGRATING DISTRIBUTED
PROCESS CONTROL SYSTEM
FUNCTIONALITY ON A SINGLE
COMPUTER

Group Art Unit: 2123

Examiner: DR. KANDASAMY
THANGAVELU

I hereby certify that this paper is
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on February 22, 2005.

Roger A. Heppermann
Reg. No. 37,641

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING RCE

MS After Final
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 22, 2004, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the rejection of the claims in view of the following amendments and comments as set forth below.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.